James A. Reed Memorial Wildlife Area

About This Area

The James A. Reed Memorial Wildlife Area is located in Jackson County, south of Highway 50, near Lee's Summit.

This wildlife area was established in 1952 when Mrs. Reed donated 731 acres of land to the Missouri Department of Conservation, in memory of her husband, Senator James A. Reed. Additional tracts were purchased using federal monies and Department funds to bring the area to its present 2,603 acres.

Development of the area and lake construction began in 1957. Over 250 acres of water have been impounded to form 12 lakes, ranging in size from one to 42 acres. Most lakes contain largemouth bass, channel catfish, crappie, bluegill, green sunfish, redear sunfish and bullheads. Striped bass hybrids have been stocked in several of the lakes. The area also has numerous small ponds.

Woodlands, native grass plantings, shrub plantings and cropfields are managed to provide year-round food for wildlife. Giant Canada geese nest and winter at the Reed Area. The area also supports good numbers of deer.

This wildlife area was acquired, developed and is managed in part through the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Things To Do

- Hunting.
- Fishing.
- Hiking.
- Auto touring.
- Field trials and dog training.
- Archery.
- Nature study and birdwatching.
- Outdoor photography.
- Picnicking.
- Frogging.
- Self-guided nature trails.

Rules and Regulations

Area hours: All public use is prohibited from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily from April 1 to Sept. 30, and from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily from Oct. 1 to March 31, except during special hunts or as otherwise posted. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily from April 1 to Sept. 30. From Oct. 1 to March 31, office hours are from 8 a.m to 5 p.m. daily.

- No littering. Waste containers may be used only for disposal of trash generated on area.
- No fireworks.
- No open fires.
- Possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited on field archery range and adjoining parking lot.
- No free-running pets. Dogs must be leashed or confined when not being trained or used for hunting. Special use permits are required for field and retriever trials.
- Training of sport hunting dogs is permitted only by holders of a valid Missouri hunting permit from 6 a.m. to sunset from Sept. 1 to March 31, and in a special designated area from April 1 to Aug. 31.
- Destroying, cutting or removing vegetation is prohibited. Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal consumption only.
- Motor vehicles are restricted to roadways and parking areas.
- Horses are allowed only on roads open to vehicles and on designated horse trails during daylight hours only. Group trail rides require a special-use permit.
- No camping permitted.
- Bicycles are allowed only on roads open to vehicles, horse trails and service roads.
- No target shooting allowed.
- Removal of water and the collecting of plants, animals or artifacts are not allowed.
- Livestock, aircraft and commercial vendors are prohibited from the area.
- No digging or soil disturbance is allowed.
- Swimming, wading, scuba diving, water skiing, sailboarding, skateboarding, caving and rappelling are not allowed.

Fishing and Boating:

Fishing is permitted under statewide regulations. The following special regulations also apply.

- Fishing is permitted in designated waters from 6 a.m to 6 p.m. Oct. 1 to March 31 and from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. from April 1 to Sept. 30.
- On Coot Lake, only artificial lures, flies and unscented soft plastic baits may be used, and all fish must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught from Nov. 1 through Feb. 19.
- On all waters, fish may be taken only by pole and line and no more than three poles and lines may be used by any one person.

Daily limits are two black bass and four catfish in the aggregate (channel, blue and flathead catfish), four hybrid striped bass and 30 crappie. The combined total number of bluegill, bullhead and all other fish may not exceed 10.

All black bass less than 15 inches, all flathead catfish less than 24 inches and all hybrid striped bass less than 20 inches in total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.

- Bullfrogs and green frogs may be taken during the statewide season by hand, handnet, gig, longbow or hook and line only on waters open to fishing and only within dates and times when when fishing is allowed. Firearms are prohibited for taking frogs. The daily limit is 8 frogs.
- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited on all impounded waters and their discharge channels.
- Salvage seining of non-game fish for personal use is permitted only with written permission of the Conservation Department.
- Privately-owned boats, including belly boats and tubes are not permitted on the area. Only Department-owned boats may be used and only for fishing. Registration and a fee are required for boat rental. Only electric motors are permitted.

Hunting and Trapping:

Area is open to hunting under statewide regulations, except as further restricted by the following special regulations:

• Hunting may be restricted on designated portions of the area, including shooting ranges, resi-

dences, work areas, campgrounds and other publicuse or service areas.

- Firearms firing single projectiles are prohibited, except during special hunts.
- Rabbits may be hunted in designated areas with shotgun or longbow from 8 a.m to 4:30 p.m. daily from Dec. 1 to Feb. 15 by holders of a valid area daily hunting tag. Limit is six rabbits.
- Squirrels may be hunted in designated areas with shotgun or longbow from 8 a.m to 4:30 p.m. daily from Dec. 1 to Dec. 31 by holders of a valid area daily hunting tag. Limit is six squirrels.
- Doves may be hunted in designated areas from noon to sunset each Monday through Friday, except Labor Day, during the statewide season by holders of a valid area daily hunting tag. Statewide limits apply.
- Deer hunting is permitted only during special managed hunts.
- Turkey and quail hunting are prohibited, except during special hunts.
- Waterfowl hunting is permitted only in designated areas and on designated days by holders of a valid daily waterfowl hunting permit. Waterfowl hunting is by reservation only. Contact the area office for more information.
- Trapping of furbearers allowed only with a special use permit.

(Regulations are from the Wildlife Code of Missouri and selected statutes of the State of Missouri. Special area regulations are from Provision 3CSR 10-4.115 of the Wildlife Code. Free copies of the Wildlife Code and Special Area Regulations are available from the Conservation Department.)

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 18th and C Street NW, Washington D.C. 20240.



Welcome

Missouri is a state rich in history, folklore and natural resources. The Conservation Department encourages you to visit, use and enjoy this area and other Department areas.

Land surrounding James A. Reed Memorial Wildlife Area belongs to private landowners. The boundaries adjoining private property are clearly marked. Please respect landowners' rights with these simple courtesies: obtain permission before going on private property, pick up all litter, be careful with fire, do not damage property, practice safe hunting.

Nearby Department Areas:

Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center Lone Jack Lake Conservation Area

For local information, contact:

Area Manager 13101 S.E. Ranson Road Lee's Summit, MO 64082 816/622-0900

Your comments and suggestions regarding area facilities and management are welcome.

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